XXXIIID CONGRESS. SECOND SESSION.

SENATE.....Washington, Feb. 12, 1855.
A communication was received from the Secretary
War, accompanied with 75 copies of the Army
prister for the use of the Senate.
Br. CASS said he should defer his review of Lord
Greedon's remarks until to-morrow.
Ir. WADE asked for the consideration of the resoson respecting Custom-Houses and Post-Offices

or. WADE asked for the consideration of the resocon respecting Custom-Houses and Post-Offices
Northern Obio.

Ir. SEWARD presented the petition of ship-masship-owners, and merchants of New York, in
ter of the Emigrant Passenger bill. Referred to
Committee on Commerce.

joint resolution was passed to settle the accounts
the late Gov. Burt, of Nebraska
Ir. DODGE (Wis.) presented three memorials
wisconsin, asking for the establiahment of a
District on Lake Superior.

Ir. MORTON moved that the Committee on Comconsinguire into the expediency of the erection of

see inquire into the expediency of the crection of building for a Custom House and Post Office at Passcole, Florida.

bailding for a Castom House and Post-Ornes at Passcols. Florida.
On motion of Mr. DAWSON, it was resolved that setty thousand copies of the State of the Union be scared for the use of Congress, if obtainable within a price of \$1 a copy.
On motion of Mr. GWIN, the bill providing for a shread from the Mississippi Valley to the Pacific at them.
If. CLAYTON wanted to see a communication between the eastern States and the Pacific, but did to believe either road embraced in this bill could be bailt. If built, the alternate sections of land would the total builtern and continue would be left to main-

is believe either road embraced in this bill could be self. If built, the alternate sections of land would is the builders, and actining would be left to main in the road except the Treasury of the United States. Prosph travel and freight will not support the road, and fister is no way travel of consequence. The rise thing, so far, is impracticable.

Mr. BUILER agreed assinty with Mr. Cleyton, the sheme was too expensive, and the projectors were steel ebough informed to carry it out.

Mr. GRIER said it is proposed to build three mads, which will cost from three to four hundred millies of dollars. The railroads now use annually 180,000 tins of iron, of which 100,000 are mannicured in the United States. The roads now in construction will soon make the amount consamed annually 450,000 tuns, exclusive of the roads projected by this bill. Where is all this iron to come from?

Mr. PEARCE opposed the bill. He was astonished if the excenteses with which such an enormous projectwas presented. He speke of the difficulties of contraction, the unextinguished Indian titles, &c.; and escunded that he could not vote for any part of the sheme.

Mr. RUSK thought the twelve sections of land per

Mr. RUSK thought the twelve sections of land per

Mr. RUSK thought the twelve sections of land per sie through deserts, and the security to be taken for se work, made Mr. Pearce's argument applicable miles to contractors than the Government.

Mr. BUTLER pointed out further difficulties, and Mr. GWIN replied, answering the objections.

Mr SEWARD said he never expected to be here advocating three railroads, but so it was. The objections came too late. He favored the proposed undertaking, and thought the country would never be in a better position than at present to undertake the atterprise, and that the advantages incidental thereto yould justify the undertaking.

Mr. MASON said that the missis and munitions of var would be transported over these roads. It would

Mr. MASON said that the mails and munitions of var would be transported over these roads. It would be a Government enterprise, and he was astonished that the Senators possessed so little information as to the construction or working of these roads. He could view with satisfaction the United States engaged in apponderous a work, and hoped provisions would be made to require the proposals of the contractors to be reported to Congress. He moved to amend the bill to secure that object.

ecure that object.

Mesers, CHASE, EVANS and BELL continued the discussion, when, at a late hour, the bill passed by a rete of 24 sgainst 21.

The Senate then went into an Executive session, at which Douglas C. Cooper's nomination to the South-

which Douglas C. Cooper's nomination to the Southern Superintendency of Indian Affairs, vice Thomas S. Drew, removed, was sent in

S. Drew, removed, was sent in.

John Appleton was confirmed Secretary of Legation to London; Mr. Coe, of Ohio, was confirmed Secretary of Legation to Brussols; Mr. Atkinson, Third Auditor, in place of Mr. Burt. Senate adj. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. WHEELER presented petitions from the Mesers. Mechan, ship builders, and others connected with the commerce of New York, in favor of the bill relating to the carriage of passengers by steam and other vessels. Referred to the Committee on Com-

The SPEAKER announced the first business to be the consideration of the President's Message on the veto of the French Speliation bill.

Mr. BAYLY, in consequence of indisposition, de-sired a postponsiment until Thursday, wishing to speak on the satject.

Mr. ORK presumed, if the House should now dis-pose of the Message, Mr. Bayly would not consider it disconteous, and urged the passage of public bills as a reason for doing se.

reason for doing so.
Mr. RAYLY said he wished to speak of the char-

acter of the veto power, thinking he would be able to show this was not a case for the application of it.

Mr. BRECKINRIDGE feared, if discussion was indulged in on the message, important appropriation bills would be lest.

Mr. OLIVER (Miss.) would have no objections to

Mr. OLIVER (Miss.) would have no objections to debate if good could result therefrom. There were culy twelve working days remaining of this session, and we should transact public business. Gantlemen who want to denounce the exercise of the veto power as a usurpation, culd select some other time.

Mr. CAMPBELL withdrew his motion to postpone the consideration of the Message until the 3d of March, but he said he would renew it if Mr. Orr's motive was to cut off debate, with the view of bringing the heaves to a value on the limey and unsubstantial.

motive was to cut off debate, with the view of pring-ing the house to a vote on the dimey and unsubstan-ial arguments of the Message.

Mr. ORR replied that Mr. Campbell should be the

hat man to complain, considering he wanted to post-pone the Message to day, when it could not be de-

The previous question was then called, seconded, and carried by a vote of 112 against 77.

Several members said this was a gag.

"The question was then stated: Shall the French

The question was then stated. Shall the French Spollation bill pass, the President's objections to the contrary notwithstanding." Decided negatively by vote of 113 against 86; not two-thirds as required by

a vote of 113 against 86; not two-thirds as required by the Constitution. The House then resolved to meet for the remainder of the Session at 11 A. M.

The House then resolved to meet for the remainder of the Session at 11 A. M.

The following is the vote on passing the bill notwithstanding the President's objections:

TEAS—Messis. Abercromble, Alken, Willis Allen (III.), Appleton Rayly Van. J. Sail, Rains, Belcher, Sennett, Benson, Blim, Bridges, Gratow, Brosis, Campbell, Carpenter, Carather, Chamberlain, Chamber, Chamberlain, Chamber, Chamberlain, Chamber, Chamberlain, Chamber, Chamberlain, Chamber, Carather, Creter, Colloin, Curtis, Cutting, Davis (R. I.), De Witt, Dickinson, Disney, Eastman, Edgerton, Edmands, Elilot (Mass.), Everhait, Farley, Fenton, Florence, Faller, Gamble, Giddings, Goodnich Goodwin, Harrison, Hastings, Haven, Bill Howe, Hunt, Intercoll, Jones (Pa.), Keitt, Kerr, Kittredge, (Knox, Landley (Ma.), McCulloch, MacDonals, McDongall, Macy, Masteson, Naxwell, May, Mayall, Maccham, Middleswarth, Margain, Norion, Packer, Packer, Feck, Peckham, Pennington, Perkins (N. Y.) Phillips, Wayall, Maccham, Middleswarth, Margain, Norion, Packer, Parker, Perk, Peckham, Pennington, Perkins (N. Y.) Phillips, Pratt, Pringe, Penyaer, Resey, Rease, Riddle, Ritchie (Pa.), Robbins, Russell, Sahin, Seymour, Shower, Simmons, Smith, Va.), Solices, Stanton (K. Y.), Taylor (Ohio, Taylor (Tenh.), Teiler, Thurston, Tracy, Front, Tweed, Up-lam, van Sant, Wade, Walbert, Walbert, Walbourne, Charl, Cobb, C. v., Craise, Davis (Ind.), Walburn (Me.) Wentworth (III.), Wentworth (Mass.), Wenbrook, Wheeler, Yates, Collicoffer, Na'le-Barry, Benton, Edwer, Beyce, Breckhridge, Cashe, Charsin, Chrisman, Clark, Cobb, C. v., Craise, Davis (Ind.), Brandelle, Barry, Benton, Beograf, Penninger, Fankner, Goode Green, Greenwood, Grey, Grew, Hamilton, Harlan (Ind.), Herschicks, Henn, Hibbard, Houston, Harlan (Ind.), Herschicks, Henn, Hibbard, Houston, Harlan (Ind.), Herschicks, Henn, Hibbard, Houston, Harlan (Ind.), News, Bingleton, Shelton, Samith (Fenn.), Sanke, Lan, Lamb, Lan, Lather, Lilley, Linckey, Ohio, McMailen, McNaire, Witte, Witte, Witcher, Shelton, Samith (Fenn.), Smith (Als.),

The House then went into Committee of the Whole on the Civil and Diplomatic bill.

Mr. SOLLERS offered as an amendment the vetoed

French Spoliation bill.

The CHAIRMAN, Mr. Hibbard, ruled it out of

Mr. SOLLERS—I appeal from the decision.
Mr. SEYMOUR said though he voted for the
French Spoilation bill, he regarded the amendment as
out of order.

Mr. KERR said he was as much in favor of the

Mr. KERR said he was as much in favor of the French Spoliation claims as any one, but would not vote to attach such an amendment to the pending bill, because it might force the President to veto it, and it is stop the wheels of Government.

Mr. TAYLOR (Ohio) sustained Mr. Sollers's amendment, saying that if he were in the majority here, some to day he would allow all appropriation bills to fail, and let a new Congress come together and act on them. The claims were well established.

Mr. SOLLERS believed the House has a right to protect its dignity and respectability. His honest opinion was that the President, in exercising the veto

power by mere caprice, has violated the spirit of the Corstitution. Several rules lead to show that the amendment was out of order.

Mr. WASHBURN (Me) contended it was relevant, as claims were provided for under the treaty which is a law of the land.

Mr. CHANDLER took a similar view, saying it was also the law of God, the higher law, "O se no "man anything."

Mr. ORR replied that every claim recognized by the treaty with Spain had been paid.

Mr. CAMPBELL regarded these claims as honest as giving members Eight Dollars per day provided for by the bill.

Mr. OLIVER (Mo.) regarded the amendment as referring to private claims, and asked where was the treaty obligation to pay them.

Mr. WASHBURN (Me) referred him to the treaty of 1850, and second article.

Mr. WASHBURN (Me) referred him to the freaty
of 1850, and second article.

Mr. OLIVER called for the production of proof,
and reminded the gentleman they are acting under
human not higher law.

On further debate, on the point of order, the Chairman's decision was sustained by a vote of Ayes 103;
Noes not counted.

The Committee rose, and the House adjourned.

NEW-YORK LEGISLATURE.

[Specially Reported for The N. Y. Tribune]

SENATE... ALBANY, Feb. 19, 1855.

CROTON WATER.

The passage of the bill to improve the supply of Croton Water for the City of New York, was recommended this morning, by the Committee having it in charge. THE PATENT MEDICINE BILL.

This bill was under discussion a short time to-day. One of its principal features is to compel the person holding the patent to have printed, in the English larguage, and labeled on the outside of the bottle or packege, the names of all the ingredients composing the nostrum.

packege, the names of an the ingression physician, and is the chief advocate of the bill, said, while it was uncer discussion, he asserted that, of all the patent medicines now in use, not a single regular physician recommended the employment of any one of them. This, he said, was not owing by any means to which of any we the profession was incapable of such them. This, he said, was not owing by any means to aspirit of envy—the profession was incapable of such a feeling—but simply from the fact that it was ignorant of their component parts. It any of these patent medicines were half as efficacious in curing diseases as was claimed for them, regular physicians would not besitate to employ them in their practice, and the inventor would, of course, increase his profits thereby. On the other hand, he argued that, if these medicines were a "humbug," the people should know it. He had no doubt that, from the very ignorance which this bill sought to remove, hundreds rance which this bill sought to remove, hundreds and thousands were annually brought to an untimely Mr. CROSBY opposed the bill on the ground that

Mr. CROSBY opposed the bill on the ground that people should be allowed the privilege of choosing their own physician and their own medicine; that if these medicines were as injurious to the general health, as they were said to be by the old school of practitioners, the people would, long ere this, have made the discovery; and that, from the fact that many of the patent medicine men toaming Brandreth and Jayne) had accumulated large fortunes in the traffic, he deduced the idea that there must be some, perhaps a good deal of efficacy in their compounds, else, be thought, the people would not have so munificently rewarded them.

Other Senators showing a disposition to take part in the discussion, and the hour growing late, the further consideration of the bill was postponed.

A strong opposition to it is already evinced, which will gather strength from delay, and the effect will be that it cannot reach the other House this session, unless very materially amended and modified.

THE WILLIAMSBURGH WATER WORKS.

The bill relative to the Williamsburgh Water Works—made necessary by the consolidation of that city with Brooklyn—was passed to a third reading, without amendment.

Mr. BISHOP introduced a bill this morning to amend the Act for the incorporation of Religious Societies.

Its provisions are as follows:

Mr. BISMOP introduced a bill this morning to amend the Act for the incorporation of Religious Societies.

Its provisions are as follows:
Section I. The third section of the Act relating to Religious Corporations, and being Art I, of title 5, chap 18. Part I of the Revised Statutes, is hereby amended as as to read as follows:

"And be it further enocted that it shall be lawful for the mele persons of full says, and who are native or naturalized citizens of the United States belonging to any Church, Congregation, or Religious Society, mow or betreeffer to be established in this State, and not already incorporated, to assemble at the church, meeting house, or other place, where they statedly attend for divine worship, and, by plurality of voices, to elect any number of discreet persons of their church or congregation, not less than three, not exceeding nine, as Trustees, to take charge of the estate and property belonging thereto, and to transact all fedials relative to the temporalities thereof and had that at election every male person, who has offered and the conducted a follows: The Bilinster of and to the United States, who has statedly worshiped with such consequence of the Edward of Church warniers or Vestrymen thereof shall be placed where, the said cirction shall be held, at least filters of the size had been also become on the said cirction shall be held, at least filters of representation of the time when, and the place where, the said cirction shall be held, at least filters of representation of the time when, and the place where, the said cirction shall be held, at least filters of representation of the time when, and the place where the said cirction shall be held, at least filters of the cirction, that the said notification shall be given for two successive Sabbaths or days on which such congregation of the time when, and the election, to make cut certificates of election for such as have been chosen Trustees, by a plaraity of voices; the certificates to be recorded in the County Clerk's Office of t

been chosen Traiters, by a pinantly of voices, the control to be recorded in the County Clerk's Office of the county in which the Church or Meeting home may be situated."

Mr. BISHOP removed, that as this bill had reference to the tenure of Church property, it had peculiar claims for the consideration of the Committee of the Whole having charge of Mr. Putnam's Church Tenure bill. He, therefore, moved it to that Committee, and his motion provailed.

THE NEW YORK CITY ATLANTIC MUTUAL INS. CO.
The Unsurance Committee, to whom was referred the bill providing that whenever the accumulation of the net profits of the Atlantic Mutual Insurance Co-shall exceed \$1,000 000, the excess may be applied

shall exceed \$1,000 000, the excess may be applied from year to year, or semi-annually thereafter, to ward the redemption of each year's certificates of earnings, in whole or in part, as may be determined on by the Board of Trustees, in their discretion, the certificates of earnings, and the control of th of a subsequent year, however, not to be redeemed until those of the preceding years are provided for-report in favor of its passage, with the following amendment:

endment:
The privilege of reclaiming profits over \$1,000,000 shall be exercised until all certificates on premiums heretofore

not be exercised until all certificates on premiums heretofore paid shall be redeemed."

The Insurance Companies and Taxation.

The Insurance Committee report in favor of the bill which provides that any Mutual Life Insurance Company, incorporated in this State previous to the passage of the General Insurance Law, on the 10th day of April, 1849, shall be subject to taxation on the sum of \$100,000, for personal property, and no more, and which declares that that is the true construction of the Act of June 29, 1853, in regard to any taxes imposed on said Commanies after said Act took effect. of the Act of June 29, 1853, in regard to any taxes imposed on said Companies after said Act took effect. REPORTS OF CASES DECIDED BY THE COURT OF

Mr. W. CLARK, Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, introduced the following bill:

Section I. The volumes containing Reports of Cases which have been licard and decided by the Court of Appeals, and which shall hereafter be published by or under the supervision of either the Secretary of State or State Reporter, shall be entitled and labeled on the back. "Fice York Reports," and numbered 1, 2, 3, &c., consecutively, anything in any law to the centrary not withstanding.

ASSEMBLY.

Mr. HEADLEY, from the Select Committee on the ode of Criminal Procedure, submitted a bill to amend

The Committee say they have examined the said The Committee say they have examined the said code and find that it contains a carefully prepared system of criminal procedure, beginning with a specification of the Courts of criminal jurisdiction, going through with all their proceedings, from the arrest of an effender to the sentence and execution, and closing with the various miscellaneous processes connected with the prevention, detection and punishment of crime. It is divided into seven parts: the first relating to the Courts and Justicial officers connected with the prevention, the second to the prevention of the courts and punishment of the courts are the second to the prevention. ing to the Courts and Judicial officers connected who criminal jurisdiction; the second to the prevention of crimes; the third to the removal of public officers by impreschaent or otherwise; the fourth to proceedings in criminal actions proceeded by indictment, compre-hending the information, examination, commitment. hending the information, examination, commitment, indictment, challenges to jurors, trial, sentence, appeal, and execution the fifth, relating to the present Courts of Special Sessions; the sixth, to special proceedings of a criminal nature, comprehending among them, coroners inquests, search warrants, outlawry, fugitives from justice, and proceedings concerning bastards, vagrants, and disorderly persons; and the seventh, relating to the costs of criminal actions and proceedings. The whole is accompanied with forms for all the proceedings, so as to make a complete manual of criminal practice sufficompanied with forms for all the proceedings, so as to nake a complete manual of criminal practice suffi-cient for the instruction and guidance of the magis trate and citizen. In order to prove the necessity of the reforms sought to be brought about by the pro-posed order than the prothe reforms sought to be brought about by the proposed code, the report gives a form of indictment under the present code for manslaughter, which takes up four foolscap pages of printed matter; and a form, as it would be under the new code, which occupies some ten lines of writing. The report strongly urges the enactment of the code by the present Legislature, Mr. WAGER moved a resolution that 2,000 copies of the Report and bill accompanying the same be printed. Referred.

Mr. LOURIE—To contract for the confinement of Washington County criminals in the Albany Penitentiary.

Mr. STANTON, from the Select Committee on a

much of the Governor's Message as related to the detention of Witnesses, reported the following bill:

AN ACT to smend Title Two of Chapter Two of the Fourth Part of the Revised Statutes entitled, "Of the street and "extinction of denders, their commitment for trial and "leating them to bail!"

I. Sec. 2s of title 2 of chapter 2 of part 4 of the Revised Statutes, is betteby amended so as to read as follows:

Sec. 2t If any winess so required to setter into a recognizance either without or with suration, shell refuse to comply with non-order, it shall be the day of such materiates to comply with non-order, it shall be the day of such materiates to comply with non-order, it shall be the day of such materiates to comply with non-horder, or he otherwise dischards according to the excessed in cases where sureties are required, and the magistrate shall be estimated from the oath of the witness or otherwise, that he or she is unable to produce such sureties. Any person imprisoned under this entitles and the country sill for such prise here.

sec. 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

The bills amendatory of the acts for the assessment and collection of taxes, was received from the Senate with a message of non-concurrence with the amendment made by the House.

Mr. BLATCHFORD moved that the House recode from its amendment Lost—Yeas, 35: Nays, 39.

Mr. BLATCHFORD moved a Committee of Conference. Carried.

ENEW TORK HARBOR ENCROCHMENT.

Mr. BLATCHFORD meved a Committee of Conference. Carried.

NEW-YORK HARBOR ENCROACHMENT.

The SPEAKER announced the following as the Select Committee on the New York Harbor Encroachment bill: Mesers. Coleman, Baker, Stuyvesant, Searing and Devening.

Bill. Passed.

To amend the act to provide for the incoporation of Plank-road Companies.

Mr. JIMMERSON, to provide for the election of the New-York Chief of Police.

Also, for the formation of a new Ward in New-York, to be called the Twenty-third Ward.

Mr. FAIRCHILD, in relation to unclaimed depositee in Savings Banks.

itee in Savinge Banks.

JURORS IN SEW-YORK.

Mr. STUYVESANT introduced the following:
SECTION I. See 2 of an act eatitled An Act in relation
Jurors in the City of New York, passed Dec 15, 1847, is her
amended so as to read a follows: See 2. The Jurors that
selected by a person to be appointed by a load consistint
the following efficiers in said City, with the September Court and the indeed of the Court
Jurors. Each member, did the known these of the Court
Jurors. Each member, that he will be experienced as the following the court of the Found for the apprintment
cold designation of the members, that constitute supports
to the following the court of the found without result to the
purpose of appointment. The said Court is read to the
thorrand to authority one or more assistant, and shall except
lond to the Mayor. Addermen, and Commencers shall be
penalty of \$100, with two surface to be approved by
said Mayor, constituted for the fathful alcharge of his du
moder this all, set shall take effect immediately. itee in Savings Banks.

Exc. 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

Mr. SEARING introduced a bill giving power to the officers or mansgers of the Church Charity Foundation, in the County of Kings, to bind out children committed to their charge, the same as parents or guardians.

Mr. PHELPS introduced a bill relating to the record and foreclosure of mortgages, which is of some importance, and calculated to effect a needed reform. Its provisions are as follows:

SECTION I Every mortgage, or conveyance intended to operate as smritage, of real estate, hereafter to be made, or heretotore made, within 19 years before the passage of this art, shall cease to be vaid as against the creditor of the percent making the same, or against subsequent puchasers or mortgage, ex, in sood lasth, after the expiration of the proposition of the the county when the twenty years a capy of each mortgage, together with a statement exhibiting the amount claimed thereon, shall be recorded in the defice of the Clerk of the county where the mortgage premises are situated. It shall be the outy of the County Clerk to im mediately record and copy, mortgage and a stement, in the same books, and in the same same read of the team force as original mortgages are streamed.

manner, and for the same foce as original mortgages are re-corded.

Sr.C. 2. Every mortgage, or conveyance intended to operate
as mortgage, of real eatate heretofore made, more than num-tion years before the passage of this act, shall cease to be valid
as against creditors of the person making the same, and against
subsequent purchasers and mortgages in good tashs after the
expiration of one year from the passage of this act, index
within said year a copy of such mortgage, together with a
statement exhibiting the amount claimed thereon, shall be a corded in the effice of the Clerk of the County where the
mortgaged premises are situated. It shall be the duty of the
Clerk to record said copy, mortgage and statement, in the same
books, and in the same member, and for the same fees as origimal mortgages are recorded.

mortgages are recorded.

(c. 3. The first two sections of this act shall not be applicated mortgages heretofore or hereafter to be executed by any road Corporation, as security for bonds issued by such Corporation. section.
Sec 4 Sub-Division two, of the third section of the 15th its of the 3th above

therein contained.

Src. 7, Section fourteen of the same tit e is bursely amended, so as to read as follows: "When the morrisaged premises, or mortgages, his legal respirantatives of his or their assigns, any part of them, shall have been purchased streeth sale by the or by any other persons or pursues whatsoever, as hereinbefore provided, the affidavit of the publication of notice of sale, a certificate of the county clerk under seal, that said notice was duly affixed in the book of notices of forcelosure, and of the county case the same way and sale of the county case in the sale and the sale of the county clerk under seal, that said notice was duly affixed in the book of notices of forcelosure, and of the county case of the sale and any analysis of the sale and any and affixed and any adjuster.

"heretofore been."

Mr. AITKEN brought in the following:
AN ACT relating to the Pedience of Parties in Actions
Section 1. Parties to civil actions, and persons for whose
immediate benefit they are prosecuted or defended, may be
witnesses in their own behalf or otherwise in the same maners sif they were so tach parties or persons. But before a
party can ofter himself as a winness under this section, on life
own behalf, sgainst an adverse party, he must give notice of
his intention to do so at least ten days before the time of exexisting.

own behalf, against an adverse party, a finish rice time of exan ination.

Sec 2. When all the parties to the action shall be present
in Court at the time of trial, either may be examined as a witness in his own behalf, although the notice required in the preceding section shall not be given.

Sec 3. In no case shall a party examined as a witness on
his own behalf be admitted to testify in relation to facts which,
if true, must be equally within the knowledge of the opposite
party, it such opposite party be an inhibitant of a foreign state
or country, and is not at the time which the jurisdiction of the
Court in which the action is presented or defended by the
representatives of a deceased person, the opposite party, if examined as a witness on his own behalf, shall not be admitted to
testify at all in relation to facts which, if true, must have been
country which the knowledge of soch deceased person.

Sec 5. When an executor, administrator or trustee, having
no interest beyond his liability to come; is a party to the action,
his examination as a witness shall not be subject to any other
restrictions or rules than that of ordinary witnesses.

Sec, 6. The rules of evidence in special proceedings of a civil
using shall be the same as in civil actions.

STENSFER, &C., FOR THE LEGISLATURE.
Mr. WISNER brought in the following bill which intended to restrict expenditures for books, sta-

tionery, etc.:

AN ACT to amend an act entitled "An act to amend an act "entitled an act to amend title 6 of chapter 7 of part 1 "of the Revised Stantes;" passed July, 1830.

Section 1 Section 11 of chapter 500 of the Law of 1831 is hereby amended so act or read as follows:

Sec. 11. All purchases of furniture, and other articles mentioned is the serticus, for the use of the Legislature, or detect Home shall be made by the Clerks of the respective Homes, and all morelys required to defrey the expenses of such furniture of the Legislature Mannia, of distantant, and of file-boards for bills and documents of the two Houses, of paragraphs of the such and the such acts sent by the members through the mails, and of transmitting the Segion Laws, Journals and Documents of the two Houses to the mails, and out of the General Fund.

Mr. WATERBURDERY.

Mr. WATERBURY-To incorporate the village of Yonkers.
Also, for the better regulation of the highways in the town of Westebester.

Mr. BAYMOND moved that the bill relating to selling Quarantine property on Staten Island, be made the special order for to-morrow. Laid over.

The resolution to distribute to members, &c., copies of the Colonial History was adopted.

Recess to 7 P. M.

MUNIFICENT.—We learn by The Salisbury (N. C.)

Earner, of the 16th inst., that Mr. Maxwell Chambers, of that place, lately deceased, has willed to Davidson College the munificent sum of \$300,000. Mr. C. has always been a warm friend of the above Institution, and has heretefore done much for it, having endowed a professorship to be designated by his name.

He also left \$30,000 to the Presbyterian Church at THE BEALE CASE.—The most strennous efforts

been made this week for the pardon of Dr. . After a full hearing of the case, Gov. Pollock positively refused to grant a pardon. [Harrisburg Herald, 17th.

SKETCHES OF LECTURES.

THE AMERICAN INDIANS. A LECTURE BY GEN. SAN HOUSTON. Lest evening General Houston delivered a lecture on the above subject, in Niblo's Theater, before the New-England Young Men's Association. A military band performed for an hour before the commencement of the lecture. The house was nearly filled. H. was received amid loud applause, and with three cheers, and three more. He commenced his address with an apology for his want of preparation, owing to multifarious avocations, and haste in traveling. Still be was, from long experience, not unacquainted with the Aboriginal Indians Notwithstanding the inadequate efforts made to civilize and Christianize them, the mismanagement of the Government, and the cupidity of its agents, they have made great progress in sivilization and religion. It has been supposed that the Indian is inferior in intellect to the white man, but he is by nature intelligent and susceptible; and from the discovery of th land there have been men of Indian birth whose valor and genius should redeem the race from any slur. The defeats of the Indian, at the hands of the whites, were the result of the superior arms of the latter. Gen. H. claimed for the Indians an equality by nature with the proudest of the whites. They are cal culated to receive the influences and refinements of the most elegant society. Among them you will find the most elegant society. Among them you will find neat and comfortable homes, ladies refined in conversation and beautiful in appearance, a government properly systematized, the Sabbath respected, native prachers proclaiming the gospel of peace to their Indian brothers, in a manner and with a feeling that would not discredit the white man. To what are such good results due? To the efforts of the Government? To the action of societies for the amilioration of the Indian's condition? No! Of the hundred millions of dollars appropriated by Government for their near not more than twenty millions have for their use, not more than twenty millions have been beneficially amplied to that object. The rest has been swallowed up by the cupidity of agents. Had the full sum been applied as was intended, it would have reclaimed from the savage state all the Indians within the limits of the United States. The agents invoce on them, after acting them drunk— Had the full sum been applied as was intended, it would have reclaimed from the savage state all the Indians within the limits of the United States. The agents impose on them, after sotting them drunk—procure their mark, in signature, when they do not know what they are marking. They are thus abused through the connivance of the trailers and agents. In Minnesota, where starving Indian mothers had to eat their children, of \$40,000 appropriated, only \$40,000 were used for the Indians. In Nebraska, the civil and military functionaries have combined to cheat the Indians out of the price of land. What worder that the tomahawk does not fust upon the froatier, when the thunders of the Executive do not fall on the wretches who not thus basely. The Indians are not treaty breakers; but when they are abused, they naturally seek revenge. They commit murders, but so do people in this City, and it would be unjust to brand this City as a nest of murders because of the crimes of a few. The breaches of treaties and origin of wholesale massacres which generally fall on the women and children, for the warriors are absent lile properly at the door of the whites. The Florida war is an instance. Jackson often defeated the Indians on the field of battle; but when he became the arbiter of their destinies, and dispenser to them of justice, he acted so that, to this day, the name of Jackson causes the big tear to start in the eye of the warrior. Raise these natives of the soil, and when their advancement in civilization comports with our society and institutions, give them are equal shares and an equal interest in the legislation; send among them honest agents, and when you reduce them to "a local habitation and "a name," they will fulfill the destiny of men, live by the sweat of their brow, cuitivate he arts and even elegancies of peace, and in two generations they will be accivilized as ourselves. Gen. H. adverted to the Indian war threatened at present, and said technical the second of the offender, but of his relatives. A Mormen par

Mormon party were passing near the Sioux camp, when a cow strayed from them to the Indian; a B-ar Indian who was among them killed the cow. The Mormons complained at Fort Belknap, and a lieutenat (a West Point cadet, who had never seen an Indian) was sent with 2s men and two pieces of aptillery to adjust the matter. The Indians offered to pay the value; the man who killed the cow was demanded, but he took refuge in a lodge, and said he would not be taken; he was a stranger among the Sioux, and they said they could not give him up, but would pay for the animal—whereupon the lieutenant fired his artillery upon them, and the result was that the whites were all massacred. This incident was made the foundation of a requisition to Washington for an army to put down the whole race. Peace has ever been the best polley with the fadians; war has produced only disasters. The agents sent among them sare either gentlemen who have a claim on the Government; and their chief or sole purpose, when they go with a parchment in their bosom among the tribus, as to steal and rob from them. Gen H. was not reflecting on the present Administration, but stating the condition of things for fifty years. He related some incidents connected with the Texan war. A Mexican force was then sweeping the country in such power that if the Indians took the Texan such power that if the Indians took the Texan such power that if the Indians took the Texan war. A Mexican force was then sweeping the country in such power that if the Indians took the Texan war. A Mexican force was then sweeping the country in such power that if the Indians took the Texan war. A Mexican force was then sweeping the country in such power that if the Indians took the Texan war. A Mexican force was then sweeping the country in such power that if the Indians took the Texan war. A mexican force was then sweeping the country in such power that if the Indians took the Texan war. A Mexican force was then sweeping the country in such power that if the Indians took the Texan war. A M ploody retaliation, and, for years, the tomahawk leamed over the whole district. Another Adminis-

gleamed over the whole district. Another Administration came in, and, though friendly, it took two years to restore peace. A delegation was sent among the Indians by the Polk Administration, but they had previously agreed not to hear propositions from any one who did not bring the credentials of a ring and certain colors. As these could not be shown, the Indians asked the delegates. Whe sent them? they anwered, The Indians father; the latter replied, They had no father, but a brother—[Applause]—and would have no "talk" with the delegates.

At the close of the lecture, a voice in the crowd At the close of the lecture, a voice in the crowd nominated "Sam Houston" for President. The nomination was received with three cheers. Gen. H. was heard with much attention, and frequently ap-

THE MODEL MECHANIC.

A lecture of the second course before the Mochanics Society was delivered, last evening, by the Rev. Dr. ADAMS, at the Society's Lecture-Room, No. 472 Broadway. The subject of the lecture was, "The Model

"Mechanic." The lecturer commenced by briefly reviewing the history, progress and advancement of mechanism from several centuries back up to the present age, after which he gave his ideal of, and defined the requisites necessary to make a Model Mechanic. Because a man was a complete masdefined the requisites necessary to make a Model Mechanic. Because a man was a complete master of some trade, it did not follow that he was a thorough mechanic; he must be an educated man, an extensive observer of men and things, and a possessor of a large fund of general information. St. Paul was a mechanic—a maker of tents from goat's hair; and, in the lecturer's opinion, he was a model mechanic. He was not only a thorough workman at his trade, but was a scholar—a perfect master, not only of his native Hebrew, but of three foreign tonges, a knowledge of which he obtained by close application to study during his leisure hours while serving his apprenticeship. It was a custom among the Jews to learn their some some trade—a custom not confined to the pror classes, but was also practiced by the wealthy; and it was a common proverb among them that if a father did not teach his som a mechanical occupation he taught him to steal. This custom was a wise one; and if the fathers of the present day would innitate the example, their wrinkled cheeks would not so often blush for the helple senses and not unfrequently criminal conduct of their offspring. The notion is too prevalent, among what we call our "better class, that labor is degrading. Even if a father intended his son for one of the professions, it would be an incalculable benefit to that son to instruct him in some branch of mechanism. His education would not only be more complete and healthy, but he might at some future time, in case of failure in his profession, find his trade very convenients a means of earning his bread; and he must necessarily be the more competent in mechanism from his professional education. An educated mentor that the standard means a feet of the professional defeation. An educated mentor of the professional education. An educated mentor of the professional education. An educated mentor of the professional education. necessarily be the more competent in mechanism from his professional education. An educated me-chanism was a model machine, while an uncludated chanic was a model machine, while an unequested mechanic was merely a mechanic working under the superintendence of another's brain. Let the rich and proud to longer look upon mechanism as degrading to him who adopts a branch of it as his calling. It is a noble calling—as noble as the indoleace and mactivity of wealth is ignoble. In conclusion, the lecturer appealed to all mechanics to educate themselves as

the only means of attaining the position of a " Mo tel The lecture-room was crowded with auditors, and the lecture was listened to with close attention.

THE NEW OPERA AT THE ACADEMY.

The production of a new opera is always a matter of more or less interest to a large number of persons in the musical world. That of Verdi's Reguletto, last night, at the Academy, for the first time, together a large audience, notwithstanding the counter attraction of the final appearance of Grisi and Mario at the Metropolitan Theater. The merits of an opera, as a composition, are two-fold—the in-terest of the work as a drama with good situations, exciting the genius of the composer, by their natural character and not by exaggerations; and next, the value of the music, in all the various requirements of vocal and instrumental components. As regards the plot of Rigoletto, we would mention that although it is founded on the rovel of a celebrated author, Le Rois' amuse, by Victor Hugo-it is confused and unsatisfactory. The earlier scenes are very intense intense enough for the culminations of the fourth act, and there is, therefore, want of the gradual looming of the musical orator up to the chinateric point. We confess not to have understood some points of the plot: but that the reader may be put in possession of all the illumination of the printed Argument, we

The Duke of Martova. Court Montheone,
Rescherto, his before.
Gittps, damphier of Rigoletto. Bonsa, mouther countier.
Searnvette, bravo. Court Creanso. Madrates, his sister.
Giovansa, governess of Gilds. An Oppicer of the Court.
A Paus of the Duchess
Cherus of Gentlemen and Ladles of the Court. Pages,
Shillers. &c.

give it in full, with the characters :

Cherus of Gentlemen and Ladies of the Court, Pages, Solicies, Solicies, Solicies, Court, Pages, Solicies, Solicies, Solicies, Solicies, Court, Pages, Solicies, Solicies, Solicies, Court, Court, Court, Carlon, Carlo countiers, even with all their habitual moral indif-ference, were outraged at the insolence of the Jester. Each of them had some wrong to right, some bitter, pointed sarcasm to resent, and, with one accord, they wowed vengeance upon Rigoletto. One said that the hump-backed buffeen had a mistress whom he loved, and it was determined that night to steal her from him. bim.

Rigoletto in the dusk of evening, with the curse of

him.

Rigoletto in the dusk of evening, with the curse of the old lerd weighing heavily on his heart, goes to ward his home; he is accosted by Sparafuelle, a bravo by profession, who, seeing his troubled look, offers for a small sum to put any enemy cut of his way, saying that he keeps a retired inn, and that his sister, who is very beautiful, tures the victim into the house where he is quietly made away with. Rigoletto refuses his assistance, but takes his address. He approaches his home and meets near by—not his mistress, but his daughter. He urges her to keep close within the house, and after a tender interview, he leaves her, when the Duke, who has tracked his incegnitia from church, steals in unperceived, and hears that she has observed him often and loves him. He makes himself known to her as a young student, and yows of mutual affection are exchanged. Hearing footsteps, he leaves and she enters the house. Maskers approach—they are the conspirators come to steal his supposed mistress—they are about placing the ladder against the terrace, when Rigoletto enters and discovers them. They pretend that they have taken his advice, and have come to steal the Countess Cepranc—that he must assist them. He agree—they put a mask on him, and tying it with a hardkerthief, literally blind him. While they ascend, he holds the ladder. They come forth, bearing away the Jester's doughter who, screaming in despair, invokes her father's aid. The Jester tearing aside the bennage, beholds his daughter in the arms of the conspirators, who bear her away in triumph.

Gilda is borne by the conspirators to the Palace, and placed in the appartment of the Duke, who is wild with delight at the unexpected appearance of his beloved. Rigoletto pursues his caemies, and at last tracks them to the Palace; he seeks the Duke, but the countiers stop blim. They learn that they have mistaken the daughter for the mistress. And halt regest the pert they have played. Suddenly Gilda rubes from the chamber of the Duke into the arms

the courtiers stop bim. They learn that they have mistaken the daughter for the mistress, and haif regret the part they have played. Saddenly Glida rushes from the chamber of the Duke into the arms of her lather. They quit the palace, Rigoletto vowing a terrible vengeance on the Duke.

The plan is laid and the scheme begins to work. The plan is laid and the scheme begins to work. The sister of the bravo, Mardalen, has been thrown in the way of the fickle Duke, who, quite forgetding Glida, throws his whole soul into the pursuit of the new beauty. At last the end of the contemplated tragedy approaches. The Duke is to visit the house of sparatucillo, who agrees with Rigoletto to murder him, place his body in a sack, and deliver it to Rigoletto at one o clock. The duke, disquised, arrives, and becomes more wildly enamored of the besatiful letto at one o clock. The duke, disguised, arrives, and becomes more wildly enamored of the beautiful Magdalen. Rigoletto and his daughter Gilda observe and hear him through the open window—Gilda is heart-broken at the falsehood of her lover, but Rigoletto blick her be comforted—the shall be avenged. He sends her home, assures himself that the bravo is true to him, and then retires. A terraite storm has now set in—rain, hall, thunder and lightning—the Duke vows be must stay all night, and the bravo consents to let him have his bed. The Duke retires. In the meantime Gilda, disguised in man's attire, approaches the house stealthity,—she could not rest—she fears for the life of her faithless lover. Trembling amid for the life of her faithless lover. Trembling amid the pittless storm, she overhears the sister pleading to the brother for the life of the handsome stranger, whom she has learned to love. The brave says his horor is concerned, and the man must die and be delivered at 1 o clock. But he concents at last that if anybody else should arrive before that time, to make him the victim, and spare her lover. The clock strikes half-past 12—Gldda hears it—there is no time to be lost—in the pureness and holmess of her love, she determines to give her life to save his! She knocks at the door—it opens—she enters it is closed. Rigoletto advances in the storm and darkness—knocks at the door—Sparafucile brings forth the sack—receives his advances in the storm and darkness—knocks at the door—Sparafucib brings forth the suck—receives his pay and retires. Rigoletto, gloating over the idea of his consummated revenge, before committing the body to the river, prepares to unite the sack, that he may gaze upon his victim—when from the house he hears a voice—a voice he knows—the voice of the Duke—whose body is contained within the sack!—his hands tremble—his heart beats, and with a cry of horror, by the aid of the flashing lightning, he discovers the features of his beloved child! She sill breathes, and blessing her lover and her father, diss in his arms. The curse of Monterone is accomplished.

This certainly is involved and sanguinary enough. The piece was well put on the stage; the first scene of the ball-room was brilliant, and an extra blaze musical splendor was lent to it by the introduction of a military band alternating and coalescing with the well-directed orchestra, led by Mr. Maretzek. The character of the music throughout is dramatic, vibrating between pure declamation and cantabile, but no floridity to be mentioned. The music is well-written throughout; but it must be judged more from a dramatic than a melodic point of view, or in regard to vecal display. The part of Rigoletto was firmly and earnestly rendered by Signor Barill: his veice is a bigh baritone, his comprehensions of the part large and dramatic, but needing in the earlier scenes a little tening down; rage may be too vehement, especially when the poet has not supplied the composer with the el to make it sempiternal. The part of Gilda, by Madame Maretzek, was given with her ordinary cor-rectness, but not distinguished by that brilliancy which some other artists possess. Her execution the most admired piece of the Opera—the quartette in the last act—was much admired. The tenor, Belloni, made a most favorable impression; his voice is clear, muscular and manly; he takes the high B flat, with resonant strength; and fatigue see ns not to attend his efforts. He shirks no thundergust of sound, while he can sing softly and cantabile-like. He is a great ac misition. The old favorite, Rocco, was thorough in his part of the brave-that useful invention of the middle ages to pepper-up melodrams of this age. Madame Patti-Strakosch was dressed to a charm, and ustified the Duke's cordial admiration of her good oks. She was the Zerlina of the tragedy-softening its more horrid traits; for we confess the last ac would have been too terrible without such a dash of comedy. The instrumentation of the Opera is elaborately rendered; but we cannot analyze it to the satsfaction of the reader. We would ask, is it by Verdi,

or has it been scored for the orchestra by another per son? We have a suspicion, after carefully reading it, that it is not an original score of the composer, but one made from a pisno-copy by another party. The new scenery, by Allegri, was beautiful, but not equal to

that of La Favorita or Lucia.

The whole interpretation and expression of the Opera last night was honorable to the management, and promised an entirely su cossful season,

MR. HACKETT'S BENEFIT-GRISL AND MARIO'S FAREWELL - The Metropolitan Theater was crowded to its atmost capacity, last night, on the occasion of Grisi and Mario's so-called farewell night in America; but, as will be seen by the advertisement, there is to be still another last, final farewell, this evening. The Opera, last night, was La Favorita, and all the artists, Grisi, Mario, Susini, and Badiali, seemed to be in fine voice and spirits, and excited the utmost en-thusiasm among the immense auditory, the largest perhaps that ever was assembled in the Metropoli-

SERENADE TO GEN. HOUSTON.

EAfter the lecture last night, the New-England Young Men's Society got up a fine serenade to Gen. Young Men's Society got up a fine screenade to Gen. Houston. A band appeared about 1 o'clock this morning, and took their stand, first on Prince-st., oppesite the General's room in the Metropoliton Hoted, where they played several airs. They then moved into Broadway, and played before the main reception room, in the hope of coaxing the General out upon the balcopy. He was too tired, however, and resolutely declined all solicitation; romaining quietly in his private room, in concreation with a few friends, among them Eljah Purdy, Mr. Delevan, and others of the Tangmany politicisms. The servends lasted of the Tammany politicians. The seronade lasted about half an hour, and drew a considerable crowd.

FIRE IN THE EIGHTH-AV.

The alarm of fire in the IfId District last night was occasioned by the bursting of a gas-meter in the dry goods store No 171 Eighth-av. It appears that the gas-lights in the store becoming rather dim, one of the c'erks, named James Graham, took a small lamp for the purpose of examining into the cause, when, upon bringing the light near the meter, it exploded with a loud report. The escaping gas took fire and communicated to the store, but the dames were extinguished before much damage was done to the premises. Graham was severely burned about the hands FIRE IN AVENUE C AND THIRD-ST.

This morning, about 2 Q clock, a fire broke out

st. The firemen were early on the ground, and speedily extinguished the flames, not, however, before the building was considerably damaged.

MARINE AFFAIRS.

THE NAVIGATION OF LONG ISLAND SOUND .- O wing to the mild weather and westerly winds which have prevailed of late, the navigation of Long Island Sound is wholly unobstructed. The several lines of steamboats that run to the eastward now make regutime. We take this opportunity to inform timid travelers that no apprehensions of starvation need be entertained by them in cases of detention similar to those of the steamboats Commodore and Connecticut last week, as the several Companies are careful to lay in at this season of the year ample supplies of food and water to guard against such contingencies, and, as on the Commodore and Connecticut, to fur-nish their passengers with food free of cost after the

period at which the boat is due at her dock.

SAILING OF THE BAINERIDGE.—The United States brig-of-war Bainbridge, under the command of Lieut. Rowan, sailed from the Brooklyn Navy Yard on Sunday for the Brazil station. She carried out a large letter and newspaper mail. Her officers and crew consisted of eighty persons.

THE EMIGRANT PASSENGER BILL. To the Editor of The N. Y. Tribune.

Sin: I wish to correct some statements made in your columns yesterday respecting the Emigrant Pas-senger bill, favored by the shipping merchants of

this City.

I. With regard to the quantity of food required by the proposed bill, you say it is less than is required in Mr. Fish's bill. Now this provision of both bills is Mr. Fish a bill. Now this provision of our bills of catifely inoperative on emigrants coming from Eaglish and Itish ports oppositely. Our ships are under European laws and European supervision in this particular. They must conform to the laws regulating emigration from there; and these are stringent, and

all that can be desired.

II. In respect to requiring emigrant ships to e wik the food of the passengers: To this arrangement the shipowners offer no objection. Practically, it is of no account to them. They either do it or not do it, just as the passengers choose. The reason they do not do it always is because the passengers prefer to do their own cooking. The Germans, especially, like to cook for themselves. This clause in the bill is not object ed to by the shipowners as any hardship, but simply for the desire to accommodate the passengers th selves. Let the latter do their own cooking if they prefer; otherwise let it be done by the cooks of the

III. On the refunding of the passage-money: The shipowners say they ought not to lose that because of death to the passenger. It may arise from disaster to the ship, by her being wrecked, or by any of the numercus and multiplied forms of maritime loss. After the shipowner-may have faithfully discharged every duty incumbent on him-after having defrayed every expense of victualling his passengers, and bringing them within a day's sati of the port of discharge, an unavoidable accident may, under the stipulation in question, strip him of every dollar of compensation for the expenses he has incurred or the services performed. The shipowners confidently submit that they would suffer great injustice by a

submit that they would suffer great injustice by a clause in the law such as is suggested.

IV. As to space: The bill objected to is equally as libered as Mr. Fish's. Upon this head the shipowners offer no objection to any provision demanded. They have made the Secretary of the Treasury's bill even more liberal in this respect than the Department itself ked. I am, Sir, your obedient servant, New-York, Feb. 19, 1855. A SHIPOWNER.

TO THE PUBLIC .- JUSTICE TO WHOM JUSTICE IS Dez.-From information derived from others, we eretofore published several articles derogatory to the character of Henry J. Sickles, of Albion, and redecting upon the integrity of his transactions in the affairs of his deceased brother, Ambrose Z. Sickles. Suid articles were published in our paper of Sept. 22, 3 and 25, hast.

Subsequent information has fully satisfied us that in the articles alluded to we did great injustice to Mr. Sickles; therefore we most cheerfully retract and dis-claim all charges thus made against him, and truly believe that in all his transactions in relation to the business of his brother and his catate he acted in enire good faith and integrity, and in accordance with

wishes and directions of his brother. That upon full inquiry and investigation we are ully satisfied that Mr. Sickles is a gentleman whose character is above suspicion or reproach; we there-fore take pleasure in publishing this statement, and would respectfully request that those papers which copied our former articles, or either of them, will do the same by this, as an act due Mr. Sickles and the Elmira Republican.

The Plurality Principle passed the Massachusetts House of Representatives on the 14th, by a vote of 218 to 111, a majority of two-thirds, and it now wants only the sanction of a majority of the people to make it a part of the Constitution.